

**PACKET TELEPHONY ACROSS THE  
PUBLIC SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK**

5

**ABSTRACT**

A network device that allows packet relay across a public switched telephone network. The network device has a converter operable to convert a packet data stream to a public switched telephone network data stream. The converter may be a voice codec or a  
10 modem, as examples. The network device also includes a controller that can send signals in the public switched telephone network data stream identifying the network device as a packet device, receive signals indicating at least one other network devices are participating in a public switched transmission session with the network device, and then send the packet data stream across the public switched transmission network directly to the at least one other  
15 network device.